

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE KANKAKEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS BRANCH

Received & Inspected

August 11, 2014

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communication Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

FCC Mail Room

"RE: MB Docket No. 14-57."

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Through my time with the NAACP Illinois Conference of Branches, we've all worked toward the goal of ending racial discrimination and bias, including inequality in jobs, education and opportunity. I'm currently the president of the Kankakee branch and have had the great pleasure of working with Com cast in supporting these goals. I support the proposed transaction with Time Warner Cable in hopes that other communities across the nation will be able to have the benefit of Com cast's partnership.

Comcast is genuinely committed to fostering a diverse employee base. The company has been recognized by organizations like DiversityBusiness.com, Equal Opportunity Magazine, and Diversity Inc. for being a top organization to work for. On a national level, the NAACP praises companies that understand the importance of minority outreach in employee recruitment. Diversity is more than ethnicity - it is also important for unique perspectives and ideas in the workplace. We can confront injustice by supporting companies like Com cast, in turn encouraging corporations across the country to get serious about their dedication to diversity. If the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable is approved, it will carry these practices on to a larger footprint across the country.

Together with Comcast, the Kankakee County NAACP has worked to promote the Internet Essentials program, which provides low cost broadband services to low income families. Greater broadband adoption directly impacts minority communities, and empowers our children through technology. Today a child without computer and Internet access at home is put at a great disadvantage, making it harder to learn outside the classroom. Equal opportunity to education is a right every child should have, no matter their ethnic or income background. Internet Essentials has connected over 350,000 families across the nation who otherwise might not have been able to afford it. In Illinois, I understand that around 40,000 families have been connected.

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I know the possibility for positive impact of this program could be so much more. I believe that the expanded offering of this program is one of the greatest reasons for approval of the proposed transaction between Time Warner Cable and Comcast so that this program can touch the lives of more families across the nation, in ways that it has right here in Kankakee.

The Kankakee NAACP has been lucky to have Comcast as a partner through its initiatives that improve life for African Americans.

I believe in the positive impact of Comcast, and encourage the approval of the Time Warner Cable transaction.

Sincerely,

Theodis Pace, President Kankakee County NAACP